

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus that retrieves contents and transmits the retrieved contents, comprising:

a processor;

reception means for receiving a retrieval keyword, used to request contents, transmitted from an external device;

retrieval means for retrieving contents from a database based on the retrieval keyword received by the reception means;

page information generation means for generating page information, including list information of contents retrieved by the retrieval means, to be displayed on a display unit of the external device, and appending and displaying on the display unit notification information respectively to the page information that displays on the display unit whether or not the page information is provided with a consecutive reproduction function of making the external device consecutively reproduce audibly and/or visually part of the retrieved contents included in the list information; and

transmission means for transmitting the page information generated by the page information generation means to the external device.

Claim 2. (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein during a period of time when respective items in the list information are selected in turn, and part of contents related to the selected items is transmitted to the external device for reproduction respectively, the page information generation means appends notification information, which is an icon that displays that the part of contents is being consecutively reproduced, respectively to the page information.

Claim 3. (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein when transmitting all items in the list information to the external device for reproduction is completed, the page information generation means appends notification information displaying that the consecutive reproduction is completed to the page information.

Claim 4. (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein in case the page information displaying the list information of contents including those retrieved by the retrieval means is generated, the page information generation means further appends information that displays whether or not the contents are reproduced at the time of carrying out the consecutive reproduction function with respect to items of respective contents in the list information.

Claim 5. (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein in case the page information displaying a table of the list information is generated as the retrieval result of the retrieval means, the page information generation means appends information that displays whether or not the list information in the table is provided with the consecutive reproduction function respectively.

Claim 6. (Original) The communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the page information generation means appends identification information that indicates whether or not the page information is provided with the consecutive reproduction function to the page information, and makes the external device display a notification indication corresponding to the identification information.

Claim 7. (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the contents are tunes, and at the time of carrying out the consecutive reproduction function, audio data corresponding to part of the contents is consecutively transmitted to the external device.

Claim 8. (Currently Amended) A communication method for retrieving contents and providing thus retrieved contents, comprising:

receiving a retrieval keyword that requests contents from an external device;
retrieving contents from a database based on the received retrieval keyword;
generating page information, including list information of retrieved contents, to be displayed on the external device, and appending notification information that displays whether or not the page information is provided with a consecutive reproduction function of making the external device consecutively reproduce audibly and/or visually part of the retrieved contents included in the list information respectively to the page information;
[[and]]

transmitting the generated page information to the external device; and
displaying the generated page information and the notification information on a display unit of the external device.

Claim 9. (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage medium encoded with instructions which when executed by a computer cause a processor to execute a method of retrieving contents and providing thus retrieved contents, the method comprising:

receiving a retrieval keyword that requests contents from an external device;
retrieving contents from a database based on the received retrieval keyword;

generating page information, including list information of retrieved contents, to be displayed on the external device, and appending notification information that displays whether or not the page information is provided with a consecutive reproduction function of making the external device consecutively audibly and/or visually reproduce part of the retrieved contents included in the list information respectively to the page information; [[and]]

transmitting the generated page information to the external device; and
displaying the generated page information and the notification information on a display unit of the external device.

Claim 10. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus, comprising:

list information request information transmission means for transmitting request information requesting list information of contents to an external device;

page information reception means for receiving page information, including list information of contents, to be displayed on a display unit of the external device and displaying on the display unit notification information indicating that part of respective contents included in the list information can be consecutively reproduced audibly and/or visually, which are transferred from the external device in answer to the request information requesting the list information;

output means for outputting the page information including the list information of contents and the notification information indicating that the consecutive reproduction is possible;

consecutive reproduction request information transmission means for transmitting request information that requests consecutively reproducing part of respective contents included in the list information to the external device; and

reproduction means for sequentially receiving and reproducing data of part of respective contents included in the list information, which is transferred from the external device in answer to the request information requesting the consecutive reproduction.

Claim 11. (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 10,

wherein the consecutive reproduction request information transmission means transmits request information requesting part of currently selected contents to the external device.

Claim 12. (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the reproduction means sequentially receives and reproduces streaming data of part of respective contents included in the list information, which is transferred from the external device in answer to the request information requesting the consecutive reproduction.

Claim 13. (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 10, further comprising retrieval keyword transmission means for transmitting a retrieval keyword that requests contents to an external device, wherein

the page information reception means receives page information including a table of list information retrieved by the retrieval keyword and information that indicates whether or not each list information in the table is provided with the consecutive reproduction function respectively, and

the output means outputs the page information including the table of list information and the information that indicates whether or not each list information in the table is provided with the consecutive reproduction function respectively.

Claim 14. (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 10, wherein during a period of time when the data of part of respective contents is reproduced by the reproduction means, the output means outputs information indicating that the data of part of respective contents is being consecutively reproduced.

Claim 15. (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 14, wherein when reproducing the data of part of respective contents by the reproduction means is completed, the output means outputs information indicating that the consecutive reproduction is completed.

Claim 16. (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 15, wherein after outputting the information indicating that the consecutive reproduction is completed for a predetermined period of time, the output means re-outputs the information indicating that the consecutive reproduction is possible.

Claim 17. (Currently Amended) A communication method, comprising:
transmitting request information requesting list information of contents to an external device;
receiving page information, including list information of contents, to be displayed on a display unit of the external device and displaying on the display unit notification information indicating that part of respective contents included in the list information can be consecutively reproduced audibly and/or visually, which are transferred from the external device in answer to the request information requesting the list information;

outputting the page information including the list information of contents and the notification information indicating that the consecutive reproduction is possible;

transmitting request information that requests consecutively reproducing part of respective contents included in the list information to the external device; and

sequentially receiving and reproducing data of part of respective contents included in the list information, which is transferred from the external device in answer to the request information requesting the consecutive reproduction.

Claim 18. (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage medium encoded with instructions which when executed by a computer cause a processor to execute a method for communication processing, the method comprising:

transmitting request information requesting list information of contents to an external device;

receiving page information, including list information of contents, to be displayed on a display unit of the external device and displaying on the display unit notification information indicating that part of respective contents included in the list information can be consecutively reproduced audibly and/or visually, which are transferred from the external device in answer to the request information requesting the list information;

outputting the page information including the list information of contents and the notification information indicating that the consecutive reproduction is possible;

transmitting request information that requests consecutively reproducing part of respective contents included in the list information to the external device; and

sequentially receiving and reproducing data of part of respective contents included in the list information, which is transferred from the external device in answer to the request information requests the consecutive reproduction.

Claim 19. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus that retrieves contents and provides thus retrieved contents, comprising:

a reception unit configured to receive a retrieval keyword that requests contents from an external device;

a retrieval unit configured to retrieve contents from a database based on the retrieval keyword received by the reception unit;

a page information generation unit configured to generate page information, including list information of contents retrieved by the retrieval unit, to be displayed on a display unit of the external device, and appending and displaying on the display unit notification information that displays whether or not the page information is provided with a consecutive reproduction function of making the external device consecutively reproduce audibly and/or visually part of the retrieved contents included in the list information respectively to the page information; and

a transmission unit configured to transmit the page information generated by the page information generation unit to the external device.

Claim 20. (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the notification information is displayed in the page information adjacent to a name of a list.

Claim 21. (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the list information is displayed in a table.